

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

RS30001 / S1012

The legislation seeks to amend Title 39, Idaho Code, by adding a new chapter that provides for a "Patient's Right to Visitation", where Idaho families will have the fundamental right to visit their loved ones who are receiving care in hospitals, hospices, and long-term care facilities. No health care facility in Idaho may require a vaccine as a condition of visitation and every health care facility must allow their residents and patients to be hugged by their loved ones. Furthermore, this right of visitation cannot be waived by an emergency declaration.

FISCAL NOTE

Included in this bill are requirements for facilities to make notifications on their websites regarding visitation policies and a means of making complaints. These procedures are already required to be submitted as part of the certification process, with complaint pages already active for the various licenses issued by the Department of Health and Welfare. The fiscal impact of implementation should be negligible.

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DISCLAIMER: This statement of purpose and fiscal note are a mere attachment to this bill and prepared by a proponent of the bill. It is neither intended as an expression of legislative intent nor intended for any use outside of the legislative process, including judicial review (Joint Rule 18).